

TRINIDAD H. S. LIBRARY



T108400006561H

BIO Mills

ENOS A. MILLS :AUTHOR

ENOS A. MILLS

AUTHOR

SPEAKER

NATURE GUIDE

B
M

7979

4876

Trinidad High School Library

Trinidad, Colorado

1. All pupils in the school are entitled to use the library and to draw books.
2. Reference books, such as encyclopedias and dictionaries, are to be used only in the library.
3. Reserved books may be borrowed for one period, or at the close of school, and should be returned before the first class the following school day.
4. All other books may be retained for one week.
5. Injury to books beyond reasonable wear and all losses shall be paid for.
6. No books may be taken from the library without being charged.



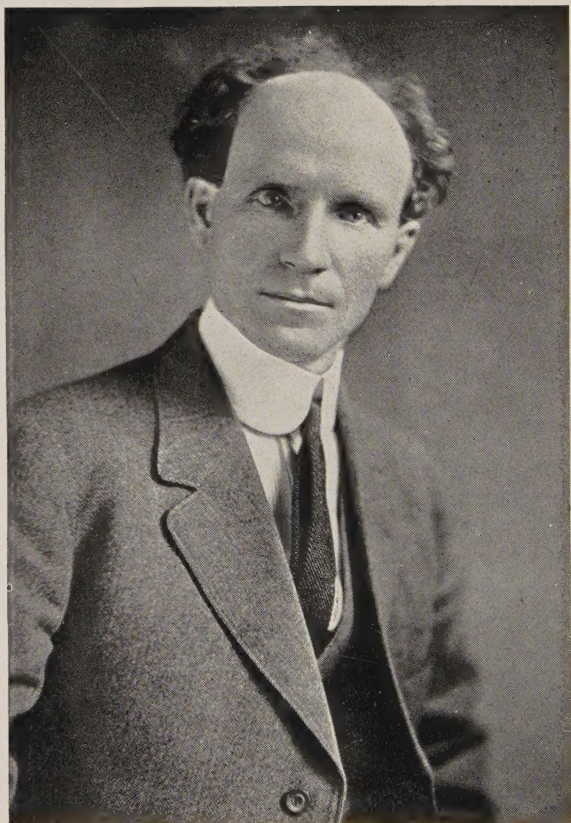
[illegible]

THIS BOOK WAS DONATED
TO
THE TRINIDAD HIGH SCHOOL
LIBRARY
BY
Miss. Leticia Bruce.

BY

Miss. Letitia Bruce.

Property of
Trinidad High
School Library



Enos A. Mills

Copyrighted 1920 Harris and Ewing

ENOS A. MILLS

AUTHOR
SPEAKER
NATURE GUIDE

Published by
The Trail Book Store
Longs Peak, Colorado
Fifty Cents
1921

A LITTLE TREE

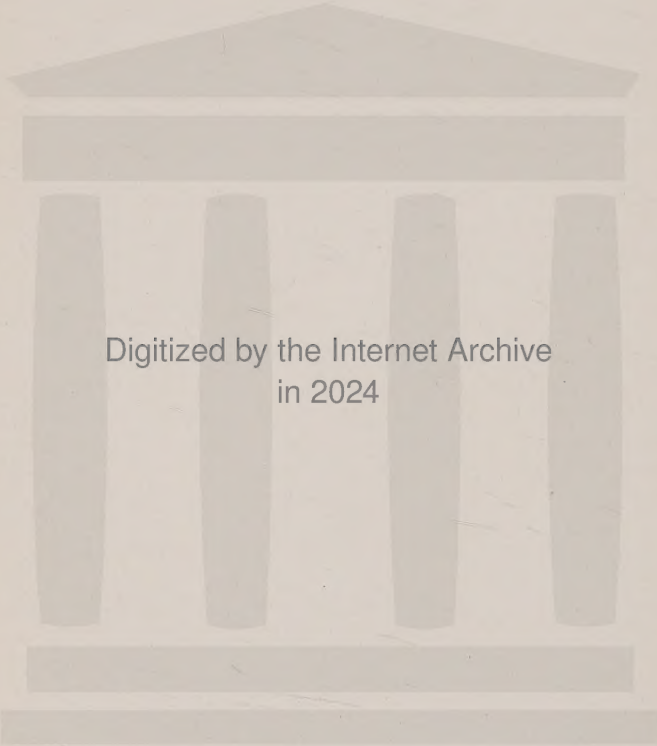
ENOS A. MILLS

I NEVER see a little tree bursting from the earth, peeping confidently up among the withered leaves without wondering how long it will live and what trials and triumphs it will have. It will better and beautify the earth; love the blue sky and the white clouds passing by and ever join merrily in the movement and the music of the elemental dance with the winds. It will welcome the flower-opening days of spring, be a home for the birds, and enjoy the summer rain. And when comes the golden peace of autumn days I trust it will be ready with ripened fruit for the life to come. I never fail to hope that if this tree is cut down it may be used for a flag-pole to keep our glorious banner in the breeze, or be built into a cottage where love will abide; or, if it must be burnt, that it will blaze on the hearthstone in a home where children play in the firelight on the floor.

CONTENTS

	Page
A Little Tree	3
Biographical Notes	7, 20
As Author	25, 30
As Speaker	22, 25
As Nature Guide	7, 17
Comments by Others	
Arthur Chapman	7, 27, 29
Clark McAdams	36
Samuel Bowles	17
Illustrations	2, 9, 16, 23, 32
List of Books	21
List of Lecture Subjects	21
National Park Monopolies	34
See Your Own State First	24
State and National Tree	25
State Parks	33
The Rocky Mountain National Park	30
Wild Flower Conservation	34

Property of
Trinidad High
School Library



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024

ENOS A. MILLS, NATURE GUIDE

by Arthur Chapman, in Country Life

Copyrighted by Doubleday, Page & Co.

As your automobile follows the twists and undulations of one of the most entrancing roads in Colorado, near Rocky Mountain National Park, probably your attention will be attracted by signs reading:

"What do you want with an armful of wild flowers?"

The question perhaps never suggested itself to you before, but you will find yourself repeating it and making the only logical answer: "Nothing."

Thereupon Enos Mills, who has done more than any other man in the West to bring nature and human kind together, will have achieved a silent victory of the sort that he has been bringing about these many years. For Mills, even by the humblest personal means, never overlooks an opportunity for rousing individuals to the folly of destroying that which should be allowed to live in order that it may be more fully enjoyed. It is his philosophy that a live flower, a live bird, or a live tree will give much more general and lasting returns than a flower plucked, a tree cut down, or a bird that has been slain. Furthermore he has so succeeded in impressing a new regard for nature upon those with whom he comes in personal contact that he manages to run one of the most successful summer resorts in the West without having a flower picked on his place on a Colorado mountainside, or a bird or other wild thing hurt.

Still thinking about the wild-flower sign, you draw up at the main building of the resort which is familiarly known in the region of Rocky Mountain National Park as "Enos Mills's place." It is an immense log cabin, with the trunks of tall, fire-killed trees towering at the porch corners, just as they stood for decades in their flame swept graveyard on the mountain slopes. Back of the inn looms the awe-inspiring summit of Longs Peak, and across a wonderful valley on the other side is the peak known as the Twin Sisters. It is here, within twenty-five miles of his home, that Enos Mills has done most of his studying and writing. From the inn one can see the little

log cabin which he built when he first came to the Longs Peak country as a youth.

You are met by the naturalist, a medium sized, athletic man, whose springy walk testifies to the long hours he has spent on mountain trails. He seldom wears a hat, though he is inclined to baldness, and the mountain winds of winter and summer have burned him plentifully. His eyes are deeply set and keen, yet contemplative, and when the talk turns to nature, which it generally does when he is about, his features reflect his enthusiasm. Altogether you feel that you are in the presence of a most unusual character, an impression which is heightened when perhaps your host stoops and picks up a chipmunk which has darted toward him. As the chipmunk climbs over his shoulders you undoubtedly begin to ask questions, and, quite evidently getting as much pleasure out of giving the information as you experience in receiving it, the naturalist talks of animal lore in general.

Once privileged to walk along a mountain trail with Enos Mills, you find just what is meant by "nature guiding," a subject on which the Colorado naturalist is especially enthusiastic. Many years ago Enos Mills was convinced that there was a great need for real guides who could tell more of the mysteries and beauties of nature in one trip than could be learned by endless study of books. This need has increased as people have turned more and more to the National Parks and other natural playgrounds.

The "nature guide," as Enos Mills interprets it, is distinctive from the ordinary conception of a guide. It is not the cowboy, who rides on ahead of the party in the wilderness, indulging in reminiscence which has chiefly to do with battle, murder, and sudden death. These guides are interesting and picturesque but they are not nature guides.

Early in his career Mr. Mills found the public athirst for information which only a trained mind could satisfy.

"I believe the development of nature guiding, and the founding of what might be termed a 'Trail School,' are of the utmost importance," said Mr. Mills. "In my work as a guide on Longs Peak, I had ample opportunity to get acquainted with the average individual's relation to nature. I tried out little talks on trees, or might go off the trail at some point to show a growth of columbine four feet tall and in perfect bloom. Or perhaps I would talk on glaciers,



Present cabin of Mills
The Mills family

Mills and daughter Enda
Interior of Mills cabin

and point out their work in forming moraines and scooping out lakes, and emphasize their relation to soil product. Then I began to take these talks into the hotel, at the end of a day's walk. It was not difficult to interest those who had seen with their own eyes the things that were being talked about. The only difficulty was to find a stopping place. To-day I believe that there is a real need for trail guides, not only in every national park but in every state park, East or West, wherever people turn to nature. I believe such work should be made a school adjunct, but the instruction should always be by practical observation outdoors."

Another thing that Enos Mills has striven to accomplish in connection with the advancement of nature guiding, is the simplification of outing trips. Often he has made his hardest trips practically without equipment. Most of his work has been done at high altitudes, in a rough, sparsely populated country. Yet he has shown that, if one knows how, he can go through the most trying storms and be comfortable without elaborate camp equipment.

Once in Denver in 1903, when Mr. Mills was occupying the unique position of State Snow Observer, he was asked by L. G. Carpenter, then State Engineer, to ascertain the snow conditions around Leadville. Mr. Carpenter, who is an irrigation engineer by profession, believed that the farmers of the state could be given much valuable information concerning the possibilities of irrigating during the coming months of summer if it could be ascertained just how much of a snow reserve had been piled up in the mountain clefts at the headwaters of streams. So he appointed Mr. Mills as the observer to go out and find how much potential irrigation water was stored in Colorado's snow banks. Incidentally it proved to be a job which nobody else cared to fill, so Mr. Mills was the first and only one to occupy the position.

On receiving his orders concerning the Leadville reserves, Mr. Mills started immediately from Denver without equipment of any sort. He had on a business suit and an overcoat, and with some raisins as food, he spent several days and nights on the great peaks near Leadville. When he came in with his report, and told how he had "traveled light" to the final degree of lack of equipment, amazement and alarm were pictured on his chief's face.

For two winters, Mr. Mills followed this unique em-

ployment. He wandered up and down the main range of the Rocky Mountains where they are at their highest. He left snowshoe tracks on the shoulders of the big peaks from Longs to Sierra Blanca. He traveled alone among the precipitous San Juans, and had innumerable adventures with snowslides and wild animals. He camped without a fire in blizzards, and ran on to the lairs of wild animals which most men shun or seek only when heavily armed, and yet he found nothing to change his theory that an individual should take only the barest necessities in camp equipment, and should not carry a gun if he is going to learn anything really worth while about nature.

A chance meeting with John Muir on a certain strip of beach near San Francisco in 1889, decided Enos Mills to be a naturalist. Mills at that time was a youth of nineteen. He had worked as a ranch hand and a miner in Colorado and Montana. He had known only the hardest toil all his life. He had struggled as a "hard rock man" during the winters at Butte, where Marcus Daly's properties were just coming into their own. But always in the summers he managed to have enough saved so that he could take trips to the National Parks, or where-ever he thought he might find some new and appealing manifestation of nature. Handicapped by lack of education, the youth had never tried to express what he had felt so keenly in contemplating nature. Then came the meeting with John Muir, which the Colorado naturalist should be allowed to tell in his own words.

"I had gone to California on one of my annual trips, and was wandering on the beach near San Francisco. I had picked up a strange sort of weed, and was puzzling about it. Always it was my desire to ask questions about the things of outdoors which I did not understand. I saw an old man approaching. He looked kindly and intelligent, and I asked him about the weed. He told me all about it, in language which fascinated me. In turn he began to question me. We walked back to San Francisco together, over the sand dunes, and he asked me more questions about myself and my work and ambitions, and advised me to study nature at every opportunity and to learn to write and speak of what I saw. His advice gave me something definite to work toward. Incidentally that meeting proved to be the beginning of a long friendship between John Muir and myself."

He had a long, hard road ahead of him, however, before he carried out the resolve which John Muir had planted in his breast. Before he could do anything with his nature observations he must learn to write and to speak clearly. This was not easy, because Mills had little or no educational advantages. He was born in Fort Scott, Kans., in 1870 and grew to small boyhood in that town. His remembrance of Kansas in those days is dim, except for the flowers that carpeted the virgin prairie about Fort Scott. His mother told him stories about Colorado which he never forgot. Her honeymoon had been spent near the mining camp of Breckenridge, on the Blue River, in Colorado, and her stories of the mountains made a deep impression on the future naturalist. Fate threw the boy on his own resources long before he could finish school. He went to Kansas City, where he earned enough to take him to Colorado when he was fourteen. He lost no time in making his way into those beloved Rockies of his imagination. He built his own cabin in Estes Park in his fifteenth and sixteenth years, meantime working as a ranch hand, or at anything else which offered. His interest in outdoor things was greatly developed, though it was as yet formless. He mined some at Cripple Creek as well as at Butte, and when in California managed to squeeze in a little business college instruction. Even after his meeting with John Muir had given him a definite purpose in life, his progress was slow owing to the handicaps he had to overcome. There were long and painful wrestles with books, alone in his little log cabin in Estes Park. It was not until 1898 that he did his first nature writing and had the pleasure of seeing it in print.

He had taken a homestead in Estes Park, and saw that the public sooner or later was going to take a deep interest in the wonderful scenery of that region. He determined that he would run an inn, and that there should be no destruction of wild flowers nor of wild game on his place, and that his guests should be asked not to give tips to employees, nor to play cards, dance, or hold religious services, unless the last be in their own rooms. He has steadily adhered to all these things, though Longs Peak Inn has many times outgrown its early limits. The summer season in Colorado is short. A scant two months will see most of the summer visitors come and gone, so there was plenty of opportunity for more trips in the hills and

for writing, which was now in demand. His notebooks were called into play to supply articles to editors, and the articles were expanded into books. Today Enos Mills has ten volumes to his credit, dealing with the varied phases of wild life in the Rocky Mountain region.

In his writing Mr. Mills has given particular attention to beaver, mountain sheep, and bears. He has studied them all at close range and from afar. He has had grizzly cubs for pets, and has had mountain sheep come down to his cabin door. He has watched innumerable colonies of beaver in many states, and there is no animal of which he has written more fully or more interestingly.

"I can't say that I have any particular system in nature study," said Mr. Mills in answer to a question. "It's just trying to make the most of what offers. Maybe I'll spend hours at a beaver colony, or it may be something else. I remember once in Alaska I climbed on an iceberg and spent the night there. There was wood which had been entangled in the glacier, of which the berg was a part, so I built a fire and was comfortable. I can't explain such things. It's just that you're constantly on the lookout for possibilities."

The national park idea fascinated the young naturalist from the first. He saw the time coming when private interests would take the choicest of the nation's scenic treasures unless a fight were made in behalf of the people, who should be privileged to enjoy those things. He was one of the first to urge the creation of a national park in the Mesa Verde region of Colorado, home of the cliff dwellers. Also he helped in the creation of Glacier National Park, but his big work was in conceiving the idea of a national park in the Estes Park region. He fought seven years to bring about the creation of Rocky Mountain National Park, making many trips to Washington, and interesting not only Colorado legislators but those from other states. To-day Rocky Mountain National Park is visited by more people than any other national playground, no less than 170,000 people having entered the region last year—a locality now dotted with wonderful hotels and expensive summer homes, whereas only three settlers "kept boarders" there when Enos Mills became a homesteader.

A sturdy fighting spirit has animated Enos Mills all during his career. He fought against poverty, ill health, and lack of education and won out. He fought a winning

fight for national parks against strong public and private influences. He has fought personal and political interests that have tried to keep the public from the enjoyment of the scenic outdoors, and he has never been too busy to lend pen or voice in aid of some project for the conservation of scenery or the protection of wild life anywhere. He has helped various states in the establishment of parks. If any movement has appealed to him as for the public good, he has never failed to help in moving it along. He was appointed by Theodore Roosevelt as lecturer in the Forest Service, but he fought that service when he considered that it was trying to hamper the National Parks movement. He introduced the bill creating the National Park Service, and he has made many trips to Washington in behalf of bills which he has considered meritorious in their relation to public playgrounds. Right now he is in the midst of a fight against transportation concessions in national parks, as he believes such concessions are monopolistic and in violation of American principles, and prevent people from enjoying the parks at least expense.

If he were left to his own inclinations, no doubt Enos Mills would bury himself in the wilderness and pursue his study of nature without any extraneous hindrance. But there is too much of the crusader in him for that. To see someone trying to exploit a scenic preserve which should be dedicated to the public, stirs his ire, and the dreamer at the beaver colonies becomes a fighting man as hard as the proverbial nails and astonishingly resourceful. The same Mills who has spent days tracking a grizzly or mountain sheep, just to observe the vagaries of the animal, and who has lain for hours under trees in apparently purposeless watching of birds, argues for some scenic preserve in so determined and straightforward a way that all the counter efforts of congressional lobbies go for naught. And he will fight for Niagara Falls just as readily as for one of Colorado's parks, or for the sand dunes of Illinois just as faithfully and unselfishly as for the Grand Canon of Arizona. He has helped consistently in getting legislation passed for the preservation of game. He has persistently urged that closed seasons be established on bears, and on the grizzly in particular, as it is his contention that the bear is not destructive nor is it a menace to human life if let alone.

Apparently it is not enough for Mr. Mills to study na-

ture at first hand and to set down in books the things he has found out. He would go farther and make it possible for everyone to have near-by places in which to acquire nature's secrets for himself.

His writings have done more to establish Colorado as a public playground than all the tons of railroad resort literature ever published. If the state had capitalized Enos Mills it would have realized many hundred per cent. on its investment. Yet there is not a note in his work that does not ring true. He has written spontaneously of the things which other men might have seen but could not.

In August, 1918, Mr. Mills married Miss Esther A. Burnell, and they have a baby daughter. Thousands of people call at the Mills home during a summer to shake hands with the naturalist. Wherever he goes, whether attending a convention of hotel men, or paying an official visit to Washington on national park matters, he is a marked man. Some of the hotel men can't see why so successful and daring an inn-keeper should be wasting his time writing nature books. Others who do not keep hotels cannot figure out why Enos Mills does anything but write. But he seems to have the rare faculty of maintaining detached interests and not letting them interfere with each other. There are long weeks and months in winter when he shuts himself up alone with his little family and an attendant or two at Longs Peak. Then the snowshoes come down, and it is Enos Mills the naturalist who wanders among the pine forests.

Mr. Mills is still a young man. He admits that he is not equal to his strenuous trips of the days when he was Colorado's snow observer, but he is still active and hardy, and may be said to be only fairly launched upon his career.

THE CAREER OF ENOS A. MILLS

"For twenty-odd years, save with the exception of an occasional visit to the world outside, a trip to Europe, to Alaska or to visit his friend John Muir in the Sierras, Enos A. Mills, who speaks before the Chamber of Commerce this evening on forestry, has spent his time traveling over the peaks of the Rockies. For a number of years he was state snow observer, and in that capacity traveled over the mountains and through the forests of Colorado, and thereby gained a fund of information possessed by but few men. Best of all, he made these trips with a receptive



Cabin built by Mills in 1886

Mills on a Beaver House

Mills as Snow Observer

Mills as Nature Guide

Mountain Sheep eating salt from hand of Mills

mind and an appreciative soul, and let the trees and the hills teach him their lessons.

"By nature of a poetic temperament, all the vast array of facts which have come to him as the result of his experience and study are colored with the poetic tinge as he seeks to impart them to others, whether in private conversation or public address.

"Some two years ago, at the earnest solicitation of friends, he began making public addresses on the mountains and forests of the state, which were enthusiastically received by his audiences.

"After acquiring a deservedly popular reputation as a public lecturer at home, his fame rapidly spread throughout the country, and during the past year he has made several trips into the Eastern states, going as far east as Boston during the present winter. The work which he was doing in the interest of forestry preservation and afforestation being brought to the attention of the United States government, a special office—that of government lecturer on forestry—was created for him. And now the Colorado mountaineer, who has tramped the Rockies in all kinds of weather, sleeping alone on the mountain peaks, without other covering than the stars above him, has received fitting recognition as an authority upon a subject now receiving considerable attention from the American people and destined to grow in importance.

"The career of this young Coloradan—for Mr. Mills is still a young man—is one worthy of emulation. There is in it much to encourage all American boys who are ambitious to make a place for themselves and be of service to their day and generation."

Editorial, Rocky Mountain News, Feb., 1907.

A VERSATILE COLORADO GUIDE

"One of the most interesting men in all Colorado is Enos A. Mills, scientist, journalist, mountaineer, well known to many summer tourists as the Long's Peak guide. His mountain climbing has not been confined to the Peak and its neighborhood. He has roamed all through the northwestern Rockies, and has tramped among the Alps, but the great ranges of Colorado are his especial field, and he knows them better than many a man knows his own backyard. He has for two winters held the office of state snow inspector, a duty which necessitates his traveling

miles and miles among the peaks in the depth of winter to ascertain the snow-fall, and thereby the possibilities of water supply for the coming summer. He makes these hard trips on a diet of a few nuts and raisins, a little fruit, and honey. He does not carry a gun. The danger is almost constant, and the fatigue and exposure terrible. It is an occupation few men would care to pursue. His endurance is astounding. The climb of Long's Peak, fourteen miles to the top and back, is one which calls for the utmost efforts of a strong man, and leaves the climber thoroughly fatigued at its end. For Mr. Mills, who, in his capacity of guide, must constantly aid the members of his party, especially women, the exertion must be vastly greater; yet he has taken up six parties in a week. More than this. On one occasion this year he took a party up Sunday morning, starting at three o'clock; another Sunday night; rode sixteen miles Monday; took a party up Monday night; and another on Tuesday. During this more than sixty hours of almost continuous exercise of the hardest kind he got just seventy minutes' sleep, and his food was honey and cream, raisins and oranges. Yet this feat seemed hardly to tire him.

"Mr. Mills is a man of perfect nerve. He will run along a mountain path close to the edge of some precipice where the man who follows will pick his careful way and cling to every rock that offers a hand-hold. In June of 1903 he descended the great east precipice of Long's Peak, a feat accomplished but once before, and which Mr. Mills declares he will never attempt again. On this occasion, caught on a tiny ledge half-way down the great wall, he saved himself by leaping thirty feet to the bank of a flying avalanche, and made a wild ride down the mountain side for a thousand feet, nearly perishing at the end amidst the overwhelming snow. Besides nerve, he possesses the faculty of finding his way anywhere, the ability to go straight through woods and over rocks to any point he may have in mind. This, he says, is not acquired, but an instinct which is born in him. And his accurate knowledge of the birds and beasts and rocks and flowers is wonderful, a knowledge not gained in schools, but gathered by long and tireless self-instruction. By the same means he has acquired the ability to write with ease and beauty of expression."

*Samuel Bowles, in
Springfield Republican, August, 1904*

ENOS A. MILLS, MOUNTAINEER

Men of the type of Henry D. Thoreau, John Burroughs, and John Muir are becoming more and more rare—men who love nature and the great outdoors more than they love the comforts of civilization. But their mantle has fallen upon one who, though still a young man, has already proved himself worthy—Enos A. Mills of Long's Peak, Estes Park, Colorado. By vocation he is a mountain guide, but he has made his mark as a lecturer and writer on forestry and natural history.

He was born in Kansas, but Colorado has been his home since he was fourteen. He was an invalid until twenty-five and had little schooling. While still a youth he went to Butte, Montana, and worked as a tool boy and then a miner in the Anaconda Mine. For many years he wintered in Montana, summered at Long's Peak, Colorado, and spent the other half of the year in camping.

For twenty years he has been a traveler and explorer. He has visited the Alps and has been through all our great Northwest, tramping across British Columbia and crossing Chilcoot Pass in search of gold and adventure, several years before the rush to the Klondyke.

He has thoroughly explored the Rockies alone, unarmed and afoot, during all seasons of the year. He has scaled all the highest peaks, some of them in mid-winter, and many of them by moonlight. He has lived alone in the open for weeks at a time, sometimes with his faithful collie, Scotch, as a companion. His adventures in storms above the timberline have been of the most thrilling description. He has camped out in every state and territory of the Union.

During all these years he has come to know nature like a book, both flora and fauna. Also he has come to love the forests, and much of his life has been spent in unpaid missionary work in the interests of forest preservation and conservation of natural resources. He has probably made more addresses on these subjects than any other man in America. He has been a free-lance lecturer under the direction of the National Government, and a special agent of the Forest Service. For three years he held the unique and adventurous position of "State Snow Observer of Colorado."

"I can't tell you how I came into this field," he once

said, "I suppose I drifted into it because I liked it. I have been prospector, cowman, and a little bit of everything at times; but my work is this—I want to save the forests. Pretty much all my life has been spent among them. I have tramped the Rocky Mountains from Arizona to Alaska. I have lived among the trees and birds and wild beasts, and they have been my friends."

"His home is a log cabin, 9,000 feet above sea level on the slope of Long's Peak. He does not live a life of luxury and ease; he is not a drawing-room ornament. But his life, rough as it has been, has given him a wonderful sympathy with the beautiful in nature, and he is at heart a poet. Book learning he has had but little, but the birds and the trees have given him thoughts, and taught him how to express himself in simple language."

Country Life In America, September, 1910.

"He, this Enos A. Mills, has camped alone in every state in the United States, and in Canada, Alaska and Mexico in addition. And camped without a gun. Not having a gun he must have looked around a little. Then he had that unique position, Colorado Snow Observer and Roosevelt selected him to be the first Forestry Lecturer of the Government. After these experiences we would expect him to be the Father of the Rocky Mountain National Park."

Milwaukee Journal

"Modern life turns us all out so nearly of the same pattern that when anyone is formed in an individual mold it is a relief and refreshment even to hear about him. Colorado has produced a number of unique personalities born of her fertile mountains and tonic freshness. One of these is Enos A. Mills, lecturer on forestry, former state snow observer, and for years a guide.

"Mr. Mills has done the state so large a service and promises to continue that service so effectively that it is time Colorado people knew more of the man and his unusual realm of enthusiasm and knowledge.

"During the past year this lover of trees has, without any recompense and at considerable expense, traveled thousands of miles in half a dozen states to speak on forest preservation and forest development. The man's earnestness and sincerity has made his work remarkably effective."

Mila Tupper Maynard, 1904

BOOKS BY ENOS A. MILLS

Waiting in the Wilderness (Doubleday-Page & Co.)

The Adventures of a Nature Guide (Doubleday-Page & Co.)

The Grizzly, Our Greatest Wild Animal (Houghton Mifflin Co.)

Your National Parks (Houghton Mifflin Co.)

The Story of the Thousand Year Pine (Houghton Mifflin Co.)

The Rocky Mountain Wonderland (Houghton Mifflin Co.)

In Beaver World (Houghton Mifflin Co.)

The Story of Scotch (Houghton Mifflin Co.)

The Spell of the Rockies (Houghton Mifflin Co.)

Wild Life on the Rockies (Houghton Mifflin Co.)

In Preparation for 1922

Watched by Wild Animals

The Story of Estes Park, revised as Long's Peak and the Rocky Mountain National Park.

LECTURE SUBJECTS

Enos A. Mills began public speaking on forestry, mountain climbing and wild life conservation in 1893. The following are some of the subjects on which he makes addresses:

The Adventures of a Nature Guide

The Grizzly, Our Greatest Wild Animal

In Beaver World

The Forest Primeval

The Glory of our National Parks

The Trail School and Nature Guiding

Waiting in the Wilderness

Wild Life on the Summit of the Rockies

Trailing Without a Gun

Watched by Wild Animals

Camping in Every State in the Union

Weather Seen and Heard, Including Lightning and Thunder

In the Home Territory of Animals

Home Loving as a Beaver

The Rocky Mountain Sheep

The Black Bear—Comedian

Wolf Ways and Coyote Clowning

The Nose Craft of Wild Animals
Wild Animals at Play
Mountain Climbing
Racing an Avalanche
Snow-Blinded on the Summit
Hunting Ancient Animals
The Story of Wild Flowers
Timberline—The Forest Frontier
The Story of the Thousand Year Pine
Forest Fires
Adventures of Birds
Little Blue—A Mountain Bluebird
The Wit-Cracker Jay
Censored Natural History
Glaciers and Icebergs
The Mirage and the Desert
Rivers as Scene Shifters
Earth's Big By-Product—Soil
The Western Frontier
When the Incas Ruled Peru
My Life as a Miner at Butte
John Muir

AS A SPEAKER

Then came the Poet

"After everybody was tired out, and with interest lagging, a man arose upon the platform who didn't have the appearance of having holding qualities. He looked as though he had blown in from the field, a man with halting manner and retiring attitude. But as for the man—he was all there with the most beautiful and inspiring message that had ever been sent out over the footlights. The audience rubbed its eyes—the man was saying something new, worth hearing and thoroughly poetical. The audience shook off its tired feeling and for thirty minutes listened to such poetry of trees, running brooks, white silent places of nature, the songs of birds and the great world lessons of the deep forests. The speaker, Enos A. Mills, the State Snow Observer, who spends his life studying and loving trees and all nature, was declared the success of the meeting. At the conclusion of his address Mr. Mills was given an ovation,"

Rocky Mountain News, December, 1905.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ENOS A. MILLS

The End of the Trail
A Mountain Sheep
Johnny — a grizzly cub

Copyrighted by Enos A Mills



"The biennial convention of Women's clubs has brought before the people of St. Paul one unique figure, and he, behold, is a man! But let the women take comfort in the fact that he is a man; not a clothes rack, not an automaton of social conventions, not a dulled commercial hack, but a man who has for the past twenty years lived the simple life of nature's creatures among Western mountains.

"This man is Enos A. Mills, guide of Long's Peak, Colorado.

"In his speech he is glowing and earnest, his voice good and his English smooth and flowing. Before he had finished you were convinced that his slim alertness, high brow and searching eyes exactly fitted, while they did not burden the great message he had to convey. Mr. Mills has been the particular hit of the Convention,"

St. Paul Daily Dispatch 1906.

SEE YOUR OWN STATE FIRST

"Enos A. Mills of Colorado, who is lecturing in the East on national Parks has struck a new note in the "See America First" idea.

"Mr. Mills is telling the Easterner to see his own state first—not to visit Colorado or any other western state until he has become familiar with the things at his own dooryard. This has set Gothamites to admitting that few of them are acquainted with the beauties of the Catskills and the pathless Ramapos at their very doors. The average individual admits that he knows other states better than his own, so far as scenic beauties are concerned.

"Nor, in all probability, is Colorado an exception to the rule. How many Coloradoans are there who have enjoyed the beauties of North Park, Middle Park and South Park—any one of them a paradise? How many have gazed on the rolling plains of Routt county, with the purples of evening descending on castle-like mesas? How many have seen the Western sun illumine Lizard Head and the other grim and wonderful peaks of the San Juan? Who has seen all there is to see in Colorado from the plains stretching from the base of Pikes Peak to the foaming Gunnison as it plunges into the Black Canon?

"Mr. Mills has scored an excellent point. If every citizen made it a rule to acquaint himself with the wonders of his own state, he would turn naturally to the others.

Companionship with nature should begin at home. When once the friendship has been established, it will be carried to the far corners of the earth, but the traveler should know first his own state and then his own country before he sets his face toward foreign shores."

Editorial, Denver Republican, January, 1912

RECOMMENDS A NATIONAL TREE

"Mr. Enos A. Mills, an enthusiastic and famous forester, in addressing the Civic Club recommended that the school children of Montana have a part in the selection of a State Tree, and also in a National Tree. This part would awaken their interest in all trees, in forestry and in the beautiful secrets of the arboreal world.

"The lecture was an odd but effective mixture of sentiment and sense; an illumination of both the practicality and the poetry of forestry. It dealt with the story of trees in a broad, beautiful, rational and always scientific way."

Helena, Mont., Independent, 1907.

AS AN AUTHOR

"Enos A. Mills, the scientist known to all lovers of the outdoors as the pioneer Nature Guide, has written another exhilarating book of adventure in the wilds. Whether he is hunting grizzly cubs, fossil animals, or pirate rivers, his adventures are always alluring. Mr. Mills writes with the dramatic gift of the good story teller who projects his reader into his own experiences."

Washington, D. C., Times.

"A sense of humor and an absolute devotion to his out-of-door life and friends gives Mr. Mills' books a freshness and a charm."

Richmond, Va., Leader

"Mr. Mills is a scientist, a naturalist with considerable knowledge of geology, who has spent most of his days in the open. Coupled with the wide knowledge of the ways of wild folk that he has gathered during his years of observation is the author's rare ability for dramatizing that knowledge, and the even rarer ability of imprisoning in cold print much of the zest, the thrill and urge of outdoors."

New York Times.

"In addition to its intrinsic value the material in "Waiting in the Wilderness" has exceptional biographical interest—the first collection of facts on Enos Mills in the making—and we would especially mention the quality of reliability that is the bedrock of every record the author makes, for it is particularly striking here that he rather underdoes than overdoes his stories."

St. Louis Star.

"Enos Mills doesn't label his forest folk and give to them sentimental adventures."

Oakland, California, Tribune.

"Enos Mills' rise in the world of literature has been remarkable. His books are having a large sale in England as well as in this country, showing that the Colorado naturalist's appeal is international, and that his novel, freshly written observations have caught the attention of scientists and lay readers abroad as well as at home.

Denver Republican, 1910.

"Waiting in the Wilderness" by Enos A. Mills proves on inspection to realize fully the allurements casual glimpses exercises, besides some acquaintance with other books by the same composite man, nature guide, geologist, inn-keeper at Long's Peak, Colorado, near the Rocky Mountain National Park, of which he is the "father." The author is a remarkable character. He has tramped and climbed without firearms and afoot for many years, lecturing at times, writing his delectable volumes about his intimate relations with all manner of furred neighbors."

Pittsburgh Dispatch.

"Mr. Mills knows how to tell a good story, giving the proper perspective to his personal experiences. But it took a most unusual preparation to write this book."

New York Herald.

"To the real nature lover there are no times or seasons that hold out a special beckon to a pursuit of the call of the wild. No American writer of nature stories has exemplified this truth with more eager appreciation than has Enos A. Mills, whose experiences have been fashioned into many delightful books which have a charm all their own. And this charm lies not so much in the matter of discoveries or of unusual powers of observation—it is more in

Mills' simple way of telling his story. An eternal Boy-Out-of-Doors is Enos Mills, and reading his stories is the very next thing to being seated around a mountain camp-fire, in the silent watches of the night, listening to the free and unlimited yarns of men who have grappled with nature's secrets in her most reticent as well as in her most desperate moods."

Kansas City Star.

"Enos A. Mills' delightful articles are well known and this book, 'Waiting in the Wilderness' is so near perfection of its kind, that it is difficult to write of it without seeming to be extravagant in its praise. Mr. Mills has the gift of writing with absolute simplicity, and with a down right grip of his subject that makes every word tell."

Hartford, Conn., Courant.

"Enos A. Mills' writings have done more to establish Colorado as a public playground than all the tons of railroad resort literature ever published. If the state had capitalized Enos Mills it would have realized many hundred per cent on its investment. Yet there is not a note in his work that does not ring true. He has written spontaneously of the things which other men might have seen but could not."

Arthur Chapman in Country Life.

OUR OFFICE BOY MEETS AN AUTHOR

Gives his impressions of Enos Mills of Long's Peak.

"I met a real author yesterday; none of them what writes long manuscripts and lays them away in the cabinet for their grandchildren to admire, but one who has wrote whole books and had them published. His name is Enos Mills and, besides bein' a author, he is the owner of Long's Peak. He has clumb all over the peak, summer and winter, knows his habits, seen where the wind comes frum, kin read the language of the clouds, talk to the birds and beasts on his mountain and he never would harm even a caterpillar that is tryin' to kill a aspen tree, he is that kind to animals.

"Mills is tryin' to persuade congress to make a national park outen Estes park, but congress don't think it's good fur us. Ain't it a blessing that we has a congress to keep us frum makin' serious mistakes that we would regret the

rest of our lives? What do we out here know about Estes park? What do we know about the benefits of havin' it a national park, where you can't shoot game, or hunt beavers with impunity or dynamite? How kind it is of our congress to tell us that we don't know what we want. God bless our congress!

"Mr. Mills is as funny as one of them wild critters you reads about in his books. He's got a fine topknot, like a quail and he brushes 'em straight up. He is a biped of the genus homo, lives mostly in the open during the winter and hibernates in summer, when he makes his livin' offen tourists. Fur exercise every morning before breakfast he climbs Long's peak, and he says he can't eat if he don't. He is kind a queer—all authors is. He does lots of things for nothin'—a very uncommon trait that is fast dying out in our country, because they has been hunted to death. If they passes the national park bill I hope they will put in a clause preservin' Enos, fur the species is gettin' rarer every day. I guess it's nice to be one of the children of nature, but it don't pay very well. Here's luck to Enos; the bears and beavers will thank him if the human beings don't."

*Alvin T. Steinel,
Fort Collins Evening Courier, Feb. 1910.*

"Which is your greatest book?" asked a Star reporter of Enos A. Mills, who is to address the City Club this evening.

"Of course, each one is the best," he replied, "the public has decided that *The Story of a Thousand Year Pine* is the best, and I suppose that Time will commend the decision. However, the Grizzly, our Greatest Wild Animal, is in the same class. Both books embody the idea embraced in Nature Guiding and the Trail school. Yes, it is true that both *Beaver World*, and *Your National Parks* contain an array of information concerning each of these subjects, but if banished and allowed two of my books the *Thousand Year Pine* and the *Grizzly* would be in my baggage."

"There is no man in the world more competent to write about the national Parks than Enos A. Mills. His own personal knowledge and thought upon the subject of national parks is most interesting."

Globe Democrat, 1917.

ENOS MILLS OF ESTES PARK

"Up where Long's Peak stabs the blue,
Where the night wind hollers through
All them pine trees—there he writes
Tales about them magic nights
In the snowy, wintry hills,
When the snowslide roars and kills—
Writes about the ancient trees
Till it seems as if the breeze
Dictates things fer him to print—
Things no breeze 'd ever hint
Unto chaps like you and me
Durn it all! why can't we see
All them wonders of the slopes
Where our poor, blind vision gropes,
Missin' flowers and sech things,
Missin' every bird that wings!
Seems as if that old Long's Peak
Passed the word along the creek,
Up the gulch and down the draw,
'Long the ridge, jes' like a saw,
Where the hills stretch South and North—
Send a kindly message forth,
Biddin' all the hill-things rise
And show themselves afore his eyes.
That's jes' why this sturdy chap,
Wind-burnt, keen and from his cap
Down to snow-shoed toe and heel,
Strong as any piece of steel—
That's why he delights us so,
Writin' things we'd never know,
Shines, like camp-fire in the dark,
Does this Mills of Estes Park!"

Arthur Chapman,

Dnever Republican August, 1909.

"Your National Parks," by Enos A. Mills. To the intensive cultivator of America this book of Mr. Mills, a wilderness lover and a naturalist of par excellence, must prove of greatest interest and value. The general reader will follow with keen pleasure the animated and affectionate description of the scenic wonders." *Public Ledger*, 1917.

"No man in America is better qualified than Enos Mills to write of the National parks. He has traversed them at all times of the year." *San Francisco Argonaut*.

"His job has been to discover places of interest that could be preserved as playgrounds for the people, and his writings have invariably carried this message: 'National Parks, the great asset for the welfare of the population.'"

John Willy.

THE MAKING OF A NATIONAL PARK

"For a number of years Enos Mills was as one crying in the mountains and pleading with the lowlands. He had gone to Estes Park and built himself a cabin at the foot of Long's Peak and explored a new wonderland.

"This was nearly thirty years ago. Some time the state will mark his coming as epochal in the state's history. He had the vision to see into the future and he had the native ability to inform the world of his store-house. He was nature's prophet.

"Other people before and after him had recognized in Estes Park nature's generosity, from their different viewpoints. Lord Dunraven and his English friends found in it an ideal game preserve where they and their guests might go in season and stalk big game. The artist found it an inspiration for beautiful paintings; the trapper a rich domain for pelts and the stockman a rich pasturage. But they were not of Estes Park. Enos Mills accepted it as something sacred to be preserved and protected for the nation. Without him the Rocky Mountain National Park would have been given over to things material and desecrated. He more than any one person felt and appreciated and understood in advance what it would mean in the years to come to all the people and yesterday saw it go formally into the keeping of the United States government to be conserved as a national heritage."

Editorial, Rocky Mountain News, September, 1915.

"Enos A. Mills, who lives in and above Estes Park at the foot of Long's Peak, is working to get Congress to do something to care for the National Parks. Now, just a word about Enos Mills. He is separated by the whole diameter of things from the average lobbyist seeking legislation at the national capital. He is a man whose business is enjoying mountains and freely serving the lovers of mountains. He writes books and magazine articles to pay expenses as he goes along.

"This matter of the development and policing of our National Parks is of great present and future importance. For ourselves, we believe that Enos Mills will get results. Any man who 'sleeps out' on Sierra Blanca in January when he happens to want to travel that way at that time, is not likely to turn aside for the usual obstacles thrown in the way by the inertia and indifference of a Congress busy with other things." *St. Louis Republic, 1915.*

"It was Enos A. Mills who conceived the idea of conserving nature's wonderful workmanship in the Long's Peak region by placing it in the keeping of the United States government, and, single-handed, he set out to accomplish this result. Single-handed he brought it about, for all the forces that have contributed to the victory were lined up through his efforts. Others have helped, to be sure, but it was by Enos Mills' persistent labor that they were made supporters of the movement.

"He fought against apathy at home and active opposition in Washington. The lack of interest that existed in Colorado he finally turned into enthusiasm. He had already aroused more public interest in the East than he found at home.

"For six years every fall and winter, when he might have put in his time on work with personal profit, he has traveled through the East, preaching Colorado scenery and the national park, paying his own expenses. He has lobbied at Washington with all the persistence and energy of a paid advocate of some special interest. He has written thousands and thousands of letters to men and organizations all over the country to enlist them in his cause. He has visited editors of great newspapers and magazines and won their support.

"Besides the time devoted to this campaign it has been expensive financially, for he has spent between \$6,000 and



CALLERS ON ENOS A. MILLS
 Librarians of the United States
 Charles Evans Hughes and F. O. Stanley
 Franklin K. Lane Otis Skinner

\$7,000 of his own money in furthering a movement that will be worth millions to Colorado.

"So let Colorado take off its hat to Enos Mills, who has nationalized the state's most beautiful park and capitalized Colorado's scenery, in which every citizen is a stockholder and dividend participant." *Editorial in Denver Post, 1915.*

THE VISION OF ENOS MILLS

"The state of Colorado needs the services of Enos Mills, seer of the mountains. He has the prophetic vision and a crusading spirit. His canvasses are of great girth. He has in view the creation of a mountain park system that would extend from the Medicine Bow Range to Pikes Peak.

"At first blush this will stagger the person who sees the ogre of foreign landlordism stalking over the West. To the ordinary citizen it looks big and a bit visionary but the more it is considered the more practical it will appear.

"To all intents and purposes the range of mountains today is government property—unused, it is true, and open to the public for different purposes, but nevertheless federal property. "As it stands it is of little service to the public. There is no connecting link."

"This is where the Mills' vision comes into play. He can see the most wonderful roadway yet conceived stretching along the crest of the continent. When completed it would be an asset of inestimable value. The tourist who failed to travel it north to south or south to north could not say that he had seen America."

Editorial, Rocky Mountain News, October, 1915.

STATE PARKS

Enos A. Mills has never preached "See America First", but he has practiced it for many years. And for several years his slogan has been, "Get America Ready to be Seen." In this connection he is now urging State Parks. This follows the theory that travelers are seeing all worth while places that are ready for their reception.

"Enos A. Mills of Estes Park, Colorado, who has done a work worthy of recognition in the creation of national parks, is now emphasizing the duty of the states toward scenic assets located within their boundaries. His address in St. Louis ought to help in quickening a sense of civic responsibility on this attractive subject."

St. Louis Post Dispatch, October, 1917.

WILD FLOWER CONSERVATION

In June 1904 Enos A. Mills posted his grounds with the following notice, copies of which were mailed to a number of sympathetic organizations:

YOU CAN HELP KEEP THIS REGION A BEAUTIFUL WILD GARDEN, SPARE THE FLOWERS.

Thoughtless people are destroying the flowers by pulling them up by the roots or by picking too many of them. Neither the roots nor the leafy stalks should be taken, and flowers, if taken should be cut, not pulled.

What do you want with an armful of Flowers?

Those who pull flowers up by the roots or gather them by handfuls will be condemned by all worthy people.

NATIONAL PARK MONOPOLIES

"Enos Mills is right. Our national parks are being injured and the traveling public is being unnecessarily restrained and mulcted by a system of concessions and licensed monopolies for which there is no excuse. These parks belong to the people. Nothing should be done, or be allowed, that tends to make them inaccessible, but especially to the moderately circumstanced. Nothing should be permitted which, even by so much as appearance, gives private enterprise an influence over their management and regulation.

"As things now stand, they are virtually let out to transportation and hotel companies, whose exclusive privilege not only exacts unreasonable toll from the traveling public, but whose relationship with the public service is such as to cast doubt on the latter's fairness and efficiency.

"These parks constitute one of the country's most magnificent assets, more magnificent in what they promise than in what they are. They should be developed as common property. They should be beautified, enlarged and adorned as common playgrounds. They should be made open and as accessible as prudence will permit. Above all things, they should never be subordinated to the interests of private enterprise. No one should enjoy an exclusive privilege in appropriating their attractiveness. Such regulations as are necessary for their protection should apply to all. Anyone willing to conform to those regulations should be made welcome.

"Hotels, inns, eating houses, etc., should be admitted under strict but absolutely impartial rules. There should be no such thing as a licensed monopoly in connection with their management. Transportation should be left open to the freest possible competition.

"The Chronicle wishes to endorse, in every particular, the stand taken by Enos Mills. Probably no man knows more about our national parks than he. Probably no man is more interested in them from a purely disinterested motive. Congress would make no mistake in calling him before the proper committee and getting the benefit of his advice."

Editorial, Houston, Texas, Chronicle, March, 1920.

In January, 1916, Enos A. Mills addressed the Chicago Association of Commerce urging support for the passage of a bill to create the National Park Service. The *CHICAGO COMMERCE* made the following editorial comment on this address:

"His name is Enos Mills of Colorado, and while he has many ideas, he may be called perhaps a man of one idea, because he thinks chiefly about the country's national parks and how he may persuade more Americans that they owe it to themselves and to their transcendent natural heritage to make ready these noble domains as playgrounds and temples for spiritual refreshment."

In January, 1917, at the National Parks Conference, Washington, D. C., Enos A. Mills launched his campaign against Transportation and other monopolies in National Parks. In his address, National Parks for all the People, he pointed out that monopolies are fundamentally wrong, that they are illegal, unnecessary and unjust. These monopolies have tried to silence opposition through a conspiracy of silence and with attempted character assassination. Secretary of the Interior Payne came to the defense of these monopolies in an attack on Enos A. Mills. But these monopolies are a political machine over which the public has no control.

This campaign against National Park monopolies became intense early in 1919, following the chartering of a Transportation monopoly in the Rocky Mountain National Park, in violation of the Congressional act creating the Park.

In February, 1921, Clark McAdams, one of the editors of the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* wrote the following comment:

FREE VERSE

Most of us submit tamely to injustice, feeling ourselves powerless to do anything about it.

We are the meek, of whom it is said in the beatitudes that they shall inherit the earth.

That may be true, but it isn't happening very fast.

It may work out ultimately, but not now.

Anyway, our old friend Enos Mills of Colorado is not like the rest of us.

There is nothing meek about him.

Apparently he doesn't believe the meek are going to get anywhere.

He thinks the fierce, who hold the earth now, are going to continue in possession of it for a bit.

Enos has a grievance.

He came through here recently and told us about it.

He says private monopolies in the national parks are defeating the purposes for which the parks are maintained.

It costs \$7.50 to take a private machine into the Yellowstone Park, where millions of public money have been spent upon roads.

There is not one of the national parks in which some privileged corporation has not gobbled up the transportation business and pretty much everything else that does the general coffers of monopoly fill.

Enos is mighty mad about this.

He thinks the parks should be free, since they belong to us.

He thinks nobody ought to have the sole rights to anything.

He says there isn't anything to the excuse that if someone is not given a monopoly the public will be deprived of adequate service.

The parks have long since got past that, so he says.

He knows all of us not having any special privilege in a national park think what he thinks about it, and therefore he takes his case to us.

Pretty big order, you will say.

It is, but Enos is not one of the meek.

We have been watching his smoke.

It rises everywhere like the white puffs of bombs dropped from a circling plane.

Just about the time you think he is not getting to some quiet place on the landscape—Boom!

Or even Ba-a-a-a-a-a-a-n-n-n-n-n-g! when by a lucky shot he has hit an ammunition dump of the park bureaucrats.

The other day we saw that resolutions condemning private monopoly in national parks had been passed by the Texas Chamber of Commerce.

That followed a ringing protest against it in the New York press.

We knew by this sign Enos was a westward hoing, and we are watching now for a heluvan explosion in California.

He is a wonder.

That last is our text.

None of us who are of the meek is a wonder.

None of us will ever drive greed out of a national park or anywhere else.

None of us will ever arouse public opinion to correct anything.

It takes a man like Enos to do that.

Somebody who will go out like Paul Revere and rouse every Middlesex village and farm.

Somebody who can whoop, yell and stir things up generally.

Marse Henry Watterson, who went to Spain after the Spanish-American War, said the trouble with Spain was that she had no public opinion.

It is a wonderful thing if you have it, and it is a wonderful thing to be able to avail yourself of it.

This is what Enos is doing.

We give him three cheers.

A little man, but O my!

We cannot see how the new Secretary of the Interior can get around him.

It ought to be as Enos says it ought to be.

It ought to be as every newspaper and magazine and body of citizens appealed to anywhere says it ought to be.

And thanks to one man, hurling himself headlong at the foe and bidding all good men rise and abet him, we think it will be that way.

Pretty soon now.

Amen!

Property of
Trinidad High
School Library





Property of
Tulsa High
School Library



W8-BWP-875

